

Establishing a broadcast flag will accomplish nothing in the war against piracy. The pirates will still get away with illegally recording and rebroadcasting shows without the consent of the broadcaster. However, the average consumer (which is allowed by law to require things for his own private viewing) will now have this ability taken away.

Aside from eliminating established consumer rights, it would also limit the development of new and interesting delivery mechanisms for the media being "protected." Most advances in the delivery and consumption of media (from the cassette tape player, vcr, mp3 player to the television itself) were not developed by the studios (who have no real vested interest in advancing technology) but in creating the content.

This regulation would not only hinder consumer confidence and consumer rights in this country, but seriously retard the advancement of technology development in America. Obviously, this regulation was suggested to benefit the extremely important and rich Hollywood entertainment industry. Is that industry completely worth destroying another arguably more important one?